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Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 04972 141154Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
----------010867 141203Z /20
O 141135Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2563
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 4972

STADIS//////////////////

EXDIS DIST AS NODIS

FOR ATHERTON FROM LEWIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR PEPR EG IS US XF
SUBJ: ATHERTON TRAVEL

1. PRELIMINARY REACTION HERE TO YOUR TENTATIVE TRAVEL PLANS IS LUKEWARM. BEGIN SAYS IT WOULD BE IN HIS VIEW MORE USEFUL FOR YOUR VISIT TO TAKE PLACE AFTER DAYAN AND VANCE HAVE MET AGAIN RATHER THAN BEFORE, IF THAT IS AT ALL POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, THEN YOU WILL OF COURSE BE WELCOME HERE.

2. BEGIN CONFIRMED THAT THERE IS NO RPT NO ARRANGEMENT AT PRESENT FOR ANOTHER WEIZMAN/SADAT MEETING. HE SAID THAT WEIZMAN AND BARAK BOTH AGREE THAT SADAT HAD PROMISED TO "THINK ABOUT" THE LATEST ISRAELI LANGUAGE FOR THE DECLARATION WHICH WAS GIVEN BY DAYAN TO US IN WASHINGTON AND BY BARAK TO SADAT DURING THE LAST WEIZMAN VISIT. THEY UNDERSTOOD AND STILL UNDERSTAND THAT SADAT HAD PROMISED TO GIVE THEM A REACTION TO THIS LANGUAGE. THEREFORE INITIATIVE FOR NEXT MEETING IN THEIR MINDS
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REMAINS WITH SADAT. (THEY UNDERSTAND THAT MUBARAK'S IMPRESSION IS QUITE THE CONTRARY HOWEVER.) IF YOU DO GO TO CAIRO, BEGIN WOULD LIKE YOU TO ASK SADAT TO REACT TO THEIR LATEST PROPOSAL FOR A DECLARATION FORMULA. BEGIN WENT OVER AGAIN HIS GREAT CONCERN ABOUT SADAT'S SWITCHING HIS POSITION IN 24 HOURS DURING THE LAST WEIZMAN TRIP, AND REPEATING IN THE LAST MEETING THE

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DEMAND FOR A DECLARATION PROMISING COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL PLUS SELF-DETERMINATION. BEGIN SAID THAT THIS FORMULA WAS AGAIN STATED IN SADAT'S MOST RECENT INTERVIEW IN OCTOBER MAGAZINE: THAT IS, A DEMAND FOR TOTAL WITHDRAWAL PLUS A STATE FOR THE PALESTINIANS. HE HOPES THAT YOU WOULD GET ACROSS TO SADAT THAT THIS IS A FUTILE EXERCISE; THAT HE SHOULD KNOW BY NOW THAT ISRAEL WILL NOT GIVE ANY SUCH COMMITMENTS; AND THAT REPEATING THESE DEMANDS OVER AND OVER AGAIN GETS THEM NOWHERE. THIS IS WHY THEY ARE STILL HOPING FOR A RESPONSE TO THE BARAK FORMULATION.

3. WILL CONVEY FURTHER THOUGHTS ABOUT YOUR TRAVEL BY SECURE TELCON LATER TODAY.

4. HAD INTENDED TO TAKE UP SUBJECT WITH DAYAN, BUT THROUGH CURIOUS SEQUENCE OF EVENTS, ENDED UP MEETING WITH BEGIN AND DAYAN TOGETHER. BEGIN DID MOST OF THE TALKING ON THEIR SIDE, ALTHOUGH DAYAN CHIMED IN HERE AND THERE AND NO APPARENT DISAGREEMENT EXISTED BETWEEN THEM. IT IS CLEAR THAT BOTH BELIEVE NEED FOR MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND DAYAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE HAS HIGHEST PRIORITY. SHOULD IT BE UNNECESSARY FOR THE SECRETARY TO RETURN TO SECOND AFRICAN MEETING AFTER HIS MOSCOW VISIT, DAYAN WOULD BE READY AND WILLING TO COME TO WASHINGTON FOR TALKS DURING THE WEEK OF THE 24TH-28TH JUST PRIOR TO BEGIN'S U.S. TRIP. BEGIN

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AGAIN REPEATED WHAT HE HAS SAID IN THE PAST TO ME THAT HE "DID NOT OBJECT" TO DAYAN'S BEING IN THE U.S. DURING HIS OWN TRIP THERE, BUT BOTH HE AND DAYAN ARE DISTINCLTLY EAGER TO AVOID THAT EVENTUALITY. LEWIS

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TAGS: PBOR, PEPR, EG, IS, US, XF, (ATHERTON, ROY)
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